Aug. 06	70.84
Sept. 06	61.04
Oct. 06	57.27
Nov. 06	57.80
Dec. 06	60.35
Jan. 06	52.53
Feb. 07	55.88
Average from Apr. 06 to Feb. 07 (upto 22/2/07)	62.74

(The composition of Indian Basket of crude represents average of Oman and Dubai for Sour Grades and Brent (Dated) for Sweet Grade in the ratio of 59.8:40.20)

(c) to (e) On the basis of decline in international prices, the prices of petrol and diesel were reduced on 30.11.2006. It was again reduced on 16.2.2007. The reduction was Rs. 2/- per litre and Re. 1/- per litre for petrol and diesel respectively one each occasion (Delhi Price). It may be noted that the prices of domestic LPG were last revised on 5/11/04. However, the basic prices of PDS Kerosene have not been changed since 1/4/02 despite increase in international prices of both the products.

Number of tourists visiting India

844. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tourists visited the country during the last one year;

(b) whether it is an increase from the last one year; and

(c) the total income received from tourism in the last year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The estimated number of foreign tourist arrivals to India during 2006 is 4.43 million.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 2006 are estimated at US$ 6569 million.

Development of tourist projects

†845. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourist projects during each of the last three years, State-wise/Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether the funds released for development of tourist projects are not being fully utilized; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by Government for ensuring the full utilisation of funds released for tourist projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The funds released to the State Governments/Union Territories for development of tourism projects during each of the last three years, State-wise/Union Territory-wise is at Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) In order to ensure full utilization of funds released, the second instalment is released only after obtaining the utilization certificates of the first instalment from the concerned State/UT Governments. The progress of utilization of funds released is regularly monitored by the Ministry of Tourism through its domestic field offices and also in the meetings with the concerned State/UT Governments.

Statement

State-wise funds released for Tourism Projects during the last three years of Tenth Five Year Plan

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount Released 2004-05	Amount Released 2005-06	Amount Released 2006-07
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2240.68	1700.00	795.44
2.	Assam	766.22	1698.45	1809.21

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.